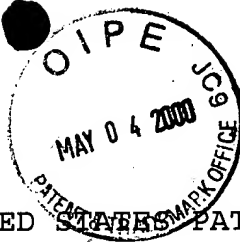


684.2213 Div.I



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIROYUKI INOUE, et al.) Examiner: C. Hallacher
Application No.: 08/796,519) Group Art Unit: 2853
Filed: February 7, 1997)
For: INK CONTAINER FOR INK)
JET PRINTING, HOLDER FOR :
THE CONTAINER, CARRIAGE)
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to a Singapore Search Report (apparently performed on behalf of Singapore by the Austrian Patent Office), that issued during prosecution of a Singapore patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application.

A copy of the Singapore Search Report, which is dated April 17, 2000, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

The documents cited in the Search Report were cited in the Information Disclosure Statements dated June 16, 1997, March 17, 1999, and January 13, 2000.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200